

**CELEBRATING STATE CHAMPIONS  
PRESS RELEASE**



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**LOCAL STUDENT ATHLETES EXCEL IN TOUGH SEASON**

Jefferson Academy celebrates four state champions in golf, track and field

BROOMFIELD, CO — On Tuesday, August 17, 2021, Jefferson Academy Charter School recognized four student athletes who became state champions this past year in High School 3A Track and Field and golf: Aubri Braecklein – golf, Sierra Haberman – Track and Field (high jump), Chrisly Kelly-Cannon – Track and Field (long jump), and Aaliyah Robinson – Track and Field (long jump). The entire student body of Jefferson Academy Secondary School celebrated with the athletes during an outdoor pep rally on Tuesday, complete with music, cheers, and singing of the school's fight song.

With the COVID-19 pandemic, student athletes adjusted to new ways of competing, taking their shortened seasons into the Summer for many sports. Craig Melville, Athletic Director at Jefferson Academy states: "Our students faced so many 'never-before's' this year and that is what makes their achievements so impressive. Never before have they had to train with such a choppy schedule, where some facilities aren't available, and in-person workouts are uncertain. Never before has the season been so late, with so few events, in such a short timeline. Never before has State been in summer with heat like there was. I am not surprised but still amazed at how athletes were able to rise up like they did."

Chrisley Kelly-Cannon, state champion in the Long Jump, says that the pandemic was always in the back of everyone's mind, but with a mom who is a mental skills coach, he states, "My coach told me I just had a couple inches to become state champion, so I just centered myself and did it."

Established as a public charter school in 1994, Jefferson Academy's mission is to help students attain their highest academic and character potential through an academically rigorous, content-rich educational program.

